



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
HIGAKI et al. ) Art Unit 2186  
Application Number: 10/768,439 )  
Filed: February 2, 2004 )  
For: STORAGE SYSTEM AND )  
STORAGE CONTROL DEVICE )  
Attorney Docket No. HITA.0508 )

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified, is submitted in connection with the Petition to Make Special Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d) for accelerated examination, which is being submitted concurrently herewith.

**CERTIFICATION**

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted prior to the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, no fee is due or payable at this time.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 08-1480.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher  
Registration Number 24,344

Juan Carlos A. Marquez  
Registration Number 34,072

**REED SMITH LLP**  
3110 Fairview Park Drive  
Suite 1400  
Falls Church, Virginia 22042  
(703) 641-4200

**January 3, 2005**

Form PTO 1449		ATTY. DOCKET NUMBER NITA.0508	SERIAL NUMBER 10/768,439
U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		APPLICANT Higaki et al.	
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant		FILING DATE February 2, 2004	GROUP 2186

## U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	2004/0073831 A1	4/15/2004	Yanai et al.			12/27/2002
	2004/0193795 A1	9/30/2004	Takeda et al.			7/31/2003
	2003/0221077 A1	11/27/2003	Ohno et al.			4/25/2003
	6,353,878	3/5/2002	Dunham			8/13/98
	6,366,987	4/2/2002	Tzelnic et al.			8/13/98
	6,502,205	12/31/2002	Yanai et al.			11/10/2000
	6,779,093	8/17/2004	Gupta			2/15/2002
	2003/0217119 A1	11/20/2003	Raman et al.			5/16/2002
	2004/0103261 A1	5/27/2004	Honda et al.			9/15/2003
	2004/0139124 A1	7/15/2004	Kawamura et al.			7/29/2003
	2002/0103980 A1	8/1/2002	Crockett et al.			1/26/2001

## Foreign Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	DOCUMENT NUMBER	FILING DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	No
	2004-151761	10/28/2002	Japan			Abstract	X

## Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	
DATE CONSIDERED	

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant*